

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the September 30, 2010 Restriction Requirement, the Applicants provisionally elect, Group II, and the claims readable thereon, namely claims 1-3, 7-9 and 14-16, drawn to a method of enhancing mucus function comprising administering an effective amount of a mucothickening agent to a subject in need thereof and wherein the enhancing mucus function is for inhibiting aerosolization and/or transmission of an airborne disease. This election is made without prejudice to the Applicants filing a divisional application to the non-elected claims. The election is also made with traverse as the Examiner has not shown that it would be an undue burden to search the subject matter of the three groups of claims together.

In response to the Election of Species Requirement, the Applicants provisionally elect the following species:

Mucus functions: epithelial protection (readable on claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 14-16)

Mucus lining: respiratory system (readable on claims 1-4, 7-12 and 14-16)

The species election is also made with traverse as the Examiner has not shown that it would be an undue burden to search the subject matter of all of the listed species together.

If any fee is due, including a fee for an extension of time, such an extension is hereby requested and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2095.

Should the Examiner deem it beneficial to discuss the application in greater detail, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact Patricia Folkins by telephone at 416-957-1683 at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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By _____

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